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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-244 (cancelled)

245. (previously amended) A nucleic construct which comprises a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a non-eukaryotic polymerase and contains a non-native intron, wherein said polymerase is expressed solely in a eukaryotic cell and said polymerase is capable of producing more than one copy of a nucleic acid sequence from said construct when introduced into a eukaryotic cell.

246. (previoualy amended) The construct of claim 245, further comprising a recognition site for said polymerase.

247. (previouslyamended) The construct of claim 246, wherein said recognition site is complementary to a primer for said polymerase.

248. (previously added) The construct of claim 247, wherein said primer comprises transfer RNA (tRNA).

249. (previously amended) The construct of claim 245, wherein said non-eukaryotic polymerase is selected from the group consisting of RNA polymerase, DNA polymerase, reverse transcriptase, and a combination thereof.

250. (currently amended) The construct of claim 249, wherein said RNA polymerase ~~comprises~~ is a bacteriophage RNA polymerase.

251. (previously added) The construct of claim 250, wherein said bacteriophage RNA polymerase is selected from the group consisting of T3, T7 and SP6, and a combination thereof.

252. (previously added) The construct of claim 246, wherein said recognition site is a promoter for said RNA polymerase.

253. (previously added) The construct of claim 245, wherein said nucleic acid produced from said construct is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA, a DNA-RNA hybrid and a DNA-RNA chimera, or a combination of the foregoing.

254. (previously added) The construct of claim 253, wherein said DNA or RNA comprises sense or antisense, or both.

255. (previously amended) A nucleic acid construct which when introduced into a non-eukaryotic cell produces a nucleic acid product comprising a non-native intron, which when in a eukaryotic cell, said intron is substantially removed during processing and wherein said nucleic acid product or protein expressed from a nucleic acid product would be toxic to a non-eukaryotic cell in the absence of said non-native intron.

Claims 256 and 257 are cancelled.

258. (previously added) The construct of claim 255, wherein said nucleic acid product is single stranded.

259. (previously added) The construct of claim 255, wherein said nucleic acid product is selected from the group consisting of antisense RNA, antisense DNA, sense RNA, sense DNA, a ribozyme and a protein binding nucleic acid sequence, or a combination of the foregoing.

260. (currently amended) The construct of claim 259, wherein said protein binding nucleic acid sequence comprises a decoy that binds to a protein required for viral assembly or viral replication.

261. (previously added) A nucleic acid construct which when introduced into a non-eukaryotic cell produces a nucleic acid product comprising a non-native intron, wherein said product would be toxic to a non-eukaryotic cell in the absence of said non-native intron and wherein said intron is substantially removed during processing and said intron is in a coding sequence of said nucleic acid product.